

THE FREE YOU

August, 1968 · Volume 2, Number 12



OUTSIDERS, OR A COMMUNITY?

\$4000 MORE DONATED TO COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING; BUT THE OWNER WANTS SOMETHING MORE - LIKE WHAT?

by bob cullenbine

Six months ago, the Free University began negotiations through Mrs. Joan Wood of Fox and Carskadon, Menlo Park, for the building at the northeast corner of Hamilton and Emerson in downtown Palo Alto. The owner, Warren Thoits, expressed an active interest through Mrs. Wood in leasing us the building. It has been vacant for over three years. Mr. Thoits indicated that to secure our three year lease he would be willing to make necessary repairs to bring it up to code for our use. Three months ago our \$200 deposit for "right of first refusal" was accepted. Since then we have received bi-weekly telephone calls from his agent asking for our re-assurance that we were still interested. Two weeks ago we were finally in a position to make firm offers to Mr. Thoits to lease the building - including an offer to do code work ourselves.

For ten days daily telephone inquiries from me generated no response. Finally last Friday we were informed that Thoits was not interested in leasing us the building at all, and we received a refund check of \$200. The reason given was that our operation would cause "parking problems" in the area. I didn't believe that then and I don't now. Feeling that Mr. Thoits must be getting some very poor information somewhere, I called his office (Thoits and Thoits - Attorneys - Palo Alto) to ask for a meeting between Free U. representatives and him. I was informed that he is out of town until August 6. So here we are with literally hundreds of people ready to work to create this community project. They are ready to work now, during the summer. Many artists and craftsmen have put off important studio moves in order to be in this center. Thousands of hours of planning, organizing, and fund raising have been spent. Friday was a day of great disillusionment, anger, and profound feelings of impatience for me.

What could we do? Wait until August 6 and then hope for a change of consciousness in Warren Thoits? Possibly the best choice. When he sees what are plans are and he understands our vision and our energy - he will change his mind -- won't he? Possibly he will even reduce the rent as a contribution. But what if he doesn't change? Then we will have lost more valuable time. So I asked Mrs. Wood (the real estate agent) to find out about another two buildings - one (4800 square feet) across the street and another (2000 square feet) around the corner. While not what our vision and planning called for, these might work out. We would have to put the press and some craftsmen in the smaller building which would divide and lessen our marketing appeal - but it was a way.

Yesterday we went and saw the two alternate buildings and our enthusiasm was rekindled. We offered to lease the larger. But oh, NO! NO! NO! I am called and told that Warren Thoits is the owner of this building, too. He'll be back August 6.

Please help if you can. Do you know Warren Thoits? Do you do business with him? Is he a personal friend? Do you want to help us talk to him when he returns from vacation? Do you have any other ideas, any other buildings? Help! There is a crying need in our community for an open, non-stereotyped, co-operative and creative center. I think our proposed project can help fill this need. Help us find the building. Help shape the dream. Help create something beautiful and positive in Palo Alto.

(THINGS NEEDED)

Please don't be discouraged by the rantings of the frustrated building finder above. His appeal to you is a cry for help. Some of you in our community will no doubt be able to help and we'll get a building - soon I hope. As important as the building are the hardware and fixtures needed to go in it. If you have or know where we can get any of the following items please let us know: money, conduit, outlets, water pipes, sewer pipes, gas pipe, triple sink, commercial refrigerator, hot plates, restaurant coffee maker, 12 foot delicatessen-style display refrigerator, Crystal chandeliers? Old style wood coffee house chairs, 20 sheets 3/4" 4x8 plywood for tables, Coffee mugs or cups and saucers, water glasses, salt and pepper shakers, Old time cash register, Hobart electric meat slicer, Large soup kettles, large hot water heater, desk, file cabinet, fireproof drapery material, flatware, bus trays and stands, soup

(continued on page 6)

OFFICIAL THINGS

JULY 14 GENERAL MEETING ACTIONS:

1. Approval of an amended summer quarter budget totalling \$10,633 (details elsewhere in this newsletter).
2. Delegated consideration of the following to the coordinating meeting:
 - Reevaluation of our National Voluntary Service Foundation Policies.
 - Discussion of Palo Alto administrative action banning be-ins in public parks.
 - Discussion of the Stanford sit-in.
 - Discussion of discrimination against hippies in Big Sur.
3. Approved the lease-purchase of a \$3500 collating machine.
4. Asked the Coordinator to seek effective means to smooth headquarters operations and to better integrate volunteer help.
5. Directed the coordinating meeting to consider all financial matters of the community center.
6. Directed payment of \$25 for gas to Bottled Aggression, from operating funds.
7. Voted support for the Black Panther Party's 10-point program and for the freeing of Huey Newton and Eldridge Cleaver, and directed the Coordinator to send a letter with a \$50 contribution to the Huey Newton defense fund.

COORDINATING MEETING ACTIONS:

1. We will pursue a way to set up tax exempt status, through our attorney Jim Wolpman. We will also investigate making an arrangement with the Portola Institute toward that end.
2. After exploring all reasonable alternatives, we will resist any action to terminate our lease of the store.
3. \$13.50 will be spent for posters benefitting the San Jose black community defense fund and coffee house.
4. Consideration of the Big Sur problem was tabled, pending the political action committee's report.
5. The Coordinator will write a letter to the appropriate body to find out regulations governing the use of amplifiers in public parks, and the history of any such regulations, including who made what decisions when, whether or not there were public hearings, etc.
6. We will proceed with plans for a fall registration be-in, with a budget ceiling of \$400; no political action will be taken without approval of our attorney and the CC, and we are not committed to hold an illegal be-in if the city definitely forbids it.
7. In any event, there will be a fall be-in somewhere, somehow, legal or otherwise.
8. We will institute monthly marathons, open to all MFU members.
9. Up to \$150 will be spent for New School printing costs.
10. We support the Stanford sit-ins, as expressed by previous motions.
11. NVSF policy revision was tabled; indefinitely.
12. Up to \$145 was approved for beekeeping course equipment, with \$55 refundable.

APPOINTMENTS:

Community Center Coordinator: Bob Cullenbine.
Secret Honorary MFU Ambassador to Soviet Union: John McCarthy.

Registrar: Jim Ware.

RESIGNATIONS:

Treasurer: Diana Shugart.

Financial Coordinator: Dan Dewey

Political Coordinator: Gaylord Smith

NOTICE: GENERAL MEETING

The regular, monthly General Meeting of the Free University, open to all members, will be held Sunday, August 4, at 3PM at El Camino Park, across from the Stanford shopping center. The agenda:

1. Election of a Treasurer
2. Discussion of the community center project, and possible political action stemming from our inability to get a building.
3. Discussion of structure, timing and agenda problems of General Meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Meetings are planned to define and chart the MFU organizational structure. All may participate; see Marc Porat at the store.
2. An MFU staff commune has been established at 205 Lytton.
3. Lee Reeves will use our name to raise money for film classes. The Free University has endorsed this project.
4. We have been notified that the fire insurance on the MFU headquarters has been cancelled. We may be able to reinsure the store in its present location, if the office and printing facilities are moved elsewhere. The building lease expires October 15, and we will press for renewal.

Persons interested in running for treasurer should contact Kim Woodard

THE FREE YOU

1061 El Camino Real
Menlo Park, Ca. 94025

*a forum and news medium
the midpeninsula free university*

Editor

Fred Nelson

Printer

Bob Palmer

Without whom we'd never...

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Larry Tesler Caryl Carr Jenny Deupree
Marc Porat Jim Ware Gail Teel
Bob Cullenbine Kathy Kirby

The FREE YOU is an open forum. We encourage its use for free expression, and for complete communication among MFU members regarding courses, activities and anything else of interest. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the MFU or the editor. Contributions will be accepted subject only to space limitations and grammatical revision. This newsletter belongs to the community.

Well, where were all you people last Saturday afternoon? That's the wrong answer. Because wherever you spent your afternoon, you were missing some of the heaviest politics that ever came down the pike. And politics, goodbuddies, is you--whether you like it or not.

Anyhow, you missed it--the San Mateo Free Huey Rally--and so did nearly everybody else. I doubt the crowd ever exceeded a couple of hundred, and I saw not one--not one--Free U. face among them.

So let me fill you in on what you missed, in the profound hope that it will make each and every one of you feel thoroughly wretched. Least things first: You missed a tape of Stokeley Carmichael's great "We got to retaliate" speech from last February's Oakland rally. You missed a nameless white rock group's mercifully brief imitation of Ray Charles. You missed a loose, semi-coherent, incredibly simplistic discourse by somebody named Ralph Ruiz, of CSM, about how the Catholic Church rules the world. (Generally, he made about as much sense as the girl in my high school class back in Kentucky who once remarked that she'd turned down a date with a Catholic boy because she'd heard they often bit the necks of Protestant girls and sucked their blood.) Ruiz also called for the destruction of the stock exchanges "on the weekends, when there's nobody in them"--thereby leaving us with packs of hungry out-of-work stockbrokers roving about raping our chicks and polluting the purity of our economic bloodstream. Come on now, Ralph; there must be a better way.

So much for the first hour. From then on, though, the afternoon began to build up steam; because the next speaker you missed was Bruce Franklin. Don't make the mistake, Bruce advised, of dismissing the right wing gun freaks as merely a bunch of right wing gun freaks; they got their rights, same as us left wing gun freaks, and maybe we can even get a little something going together. White radicals, he said, should arm themselves in the name of the black revolution--a piece of advice which I can't help suspecting involves a misinterpretation of what the Panthers are all about. After all, they originated as the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, and it seems to me we ought to take them at their word when they say they're not looking to draw first blood. It may well be that the day will soon arrive when the Panthers ask us to take up arms and join them; but right now it's their Selves, not ours, that need Defense, and so we're out of order to consider such a move until they indicate that that day is at hand. Still and all, Bruce's conclusion--that white radicals have a pact with their black brothers, and that "We have to write it in blood! We have to write that in blood!"--is unarguable; and in the final analysis it was a strong brave speech. Too bad you weren't there.

Next you missed Bob Hoover, director of the EPA Teen Project, who delivered an elegantly passionate speech on what he called "the psychological revolution", which he said was best characterized by the growing preference for the term "black" as opposed to "Negro." The first priority of the revolution, he said, was the conversion of Negroes to black people. And, speaking directly to the disappointingly small number of blacks in the audience, he said that this missionary effort would require, in Stokeley's phrase, "undying love for our brothers and sisters." Missionaries who love their flocks are, I submit, damn rare; but I'm satisfied Bob Hoover is one. Believe on him.

But most of all you missed Eldridge Cleaver. Who began by saying that he didn't like guns much, and that it wouldn't be necessary for black people in "Babylon" (America) to take them up if it weren't for "these murderous brutal pig cops." Who went on to accuse the government of offering early discharges to GI's if they'd agree to join the police force back home. (He did not document. I wish he had; it was the only soft spot in his speech.) Who uttered what is sure to become a rallying cry in the politics of the future: PUSSY POWER! ("It may be," he said, "that political power grows out of the lips of a pussy!" Then, turning Lysistrata inside out, he directed chicks whose husbands and boyfriends have't joined the revolution to "cut off their suggar til they prove they're men!") Who called William Knowland "one of the funkiest pigs of all ... a racist dog ... who ought to be dead!" Who said that LBJ is busily ending hostilities with the communists because he knows he'll soon have the enslaved black peoples of the world to deal with. Who said, "We're living in the time of the last chance!" Who said that if the Panthers go to Hell for what they're doing, "then we'll just have to organize and overthrow the devil. Because if they got those streets paved with gold up there in Heaven, then I want to put my big feet on them! ... Huey is our Jesus, but we want him down from that cross! ... When LBJ talks, I hear oink! ... You can't believe what comes down over TV because they oink on it before they let it come down! ... We're going to have peace, justice, and equality, or we're going to have barbeque! ... A new day of justice, or a barbeque!"

A great speech. And you missed it. Eldridge Cleaver isn't Circe, of course, and he won't turn you into a pig-- but the next time you spend a Saturday afternoon rooting around in the apathy trough while there's a rally going on, you just might be well advised to give that imminent barbeque a little thought.

THE TIME OF THE LAST CHANCE

by
ed mcclanahan



COORDINATION *by kim woodard*

A lot seems to get said in The Free You about the way we make community decisions and about the substance of those decisions. Meetings are written up, issues debated, votes recorded, agendas published and decisions of the Coordinating Committee listed in every newsletter. We focus a lot of our community attention on the decision-making which goes on in our open meetings and so it should be. But there is another half of the operation of the Free University which goes virtually unnoticed. We pay very little attention to the manner in which decisions are carried into action. We are fascinated by the formulation of policy but repelled and perhaps frightened a bit by the administration and implementation of the policies we set for ourselves. We are beautiful and alive in our world of ideas and free and open in our choices of direction. But we are remarkably impotent and constricted and hesitating in the hard work of carrying through and following up on our ideas. But we must learn to work together as well as being able to decide together. We must coordinate and administer without becoming captives of our own patterns of administration. We must regularize and rationalize our activities while leaving room for repeated innovation and for repeated destruction and re-creation of our own bureaucracy. And so it is important that we begin to turn our attention to the action side of the Free University and think about our own developing administration. "Administration" may be a freaky word in our context, but ignoring the fact of our growing administration neither makes it disappear, nor makes it one bit less controlled and rigidified. Ignoring the existence and the needs of our administration only serves to render us impotent in the face of the demands which the growth of our membership are pressing in upon us. So if act we will, then administer we must and if administer we must, then we'd best be conscious about it.

(ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION)

Marc Porat has made an important Administrative organization contribution to our consciousness of our own administrative problems by drawing up a rough draft of a structural proposal and by initiating an open meeting of the Executive Committee for the discussion of administrative questions. He has also suggested the development of a handbook which would simplify the introduction of volunteers to various parts of the Free U. administrative structure. I have reservations about some aspects of the structure proposal, but recommend that we consider it a springboard for further discussion.

I intend to submit a proposal for amending the by-laws to the effect that all appointed officers and staff members be requested to submit a brief description of their positions to the Coordinating Committee before the Coordinating Committee ratifies their appointments. This kind of a regularized procedure would enable the Coordinator and the Coordinating Committee to eliminate gaps between jobs and overlapping, while still leaving the fundamental initiative concerning the definition of a job and its responsibilities to the person who was to hold the position. Since all appointments must be renewed and ratified every six months, each appointed member of the staff would thus be asked to report on his position at least twice a year.

As another part of the effort to become conscious about our latent administration, I will use this column in the newsletter to report regularly on the action side of the Free U. in an informal and at times polemic manner. Recent developments are as follows:

(COMMUNITY CENTER)

Bob Cullenbine (Cully) has been appointed and ratified as Community Center Coordinator. Cully has raised more than \$5,000 in donations in addition to the original \$5,000 gift. He is currently working on obtaining a lease on a building in Palo Alto large enough to hold the Community Center. If you want to donate time or energy or money to the Community Center Project, call 326-8104.

(LYTTON HOUSE COMMUNE)

The General Meeting passed two "unspecified" salaries on July 14 for the support of the Lytton House Commune workers. The idea is to pay room and board plus a small salary to six or seven people who are working full time for the Free U. The Free University gains by cutting down the cost of supporting each worker and the workers obviously gain by being supported. And everyone gains through the experience of an experiment in living. At present the Coordinating Committee is waiting to hear about the final plans for the Commune. One of the most important jobs on the administrative side will be to figure out some rough division of labor for the six workers. Three of the six already hold formal staff positions in the Free U. and the other three have been working with us for some time.

The Print Shop is currently working out an accounting system which will be handled by Bob Palmer. The new system will keep track of supplies, income, and so on and will provide us with more specific information on printing costs when it comes to making up the Fall Quarter Budget.

SERIAL

by gurney norman

3:opal is dying

I see now how very difficult it's going to be to tell this story in anything like a proper sequence. The world, the real world, alive and on-going there outside my memory and my imagination, intrudes. Into my musings on people as they used to be come the people as they are, today, prototypes of characters leaping full-blown onto the stage in the middle of the play. It tends to interrupt, as my grandfather would say. For a fact, it does. But it's got to be dealt with.

And in any case, it's a minor problem compared to the kinds of problems some of the characters themselves have.



photo: ed mcclanahan

It turns out that Opal -- Opal Candill now; she finally married a Candill from Leslie County -- that Emmitt's ex-wife Opal is very sick and isn't expected to live. My sister gave me the information in a letter that arrived this morning. So, a little to my surprise, I find myself sitting looking out the window now, faced with the fact that it's going to grieve me a lot if Opal doesn't live.

She always was fragile, and she suffered a good deal from one thing or another, most of it stemming from simple malnutrition as a child, I would guess. I know she had a hard time as a child, her whole family did, a lot of families in our part of the country did. She was always thin and pale, and now, according to my sister, she's simply wasting away.

I guess nature knows better than I do what ought to happen to Opal. But it's for my own sake as much as hers that I want Opal to live. It's entirely likely that she wants to die, is trying to die. She tried suicide once, not long after her marriage to my Uncle was over. From what I can understand through my sister, her life has been no better since then, and she's in pain most of the time. Her marriage to the Candill fellow apparently was as impossible as her marriage to Uncle Emmitt. She had a talent for impossible marriages, for impossibility in general. Perhaps she finally came to realize that, came to believe that life itself is impossible, and simply doesn't want to go on with it anymore.

But still, I want Opal to live. She was the first and one of the few true women in my life. I haven't kept up with the details of her career since she was part of our family, but always there's been a very large and special place for her in my memory. If she dies, now, and in this way, I'm going to have to revise a lot of things, assumptions, I've come to count on. And I'm not as tough as Opal is.

Opal and I used to drink coffee together by the hour. If Grandma didn't have some reason to send me out to the wash house, where she and Emmitt lived that brief year of their marriage, then I'd make up my own excuse to go.

"Opal," I'd yell through the window, "I'm going to the mailbox now, you got anything to send?"

She always said no. "But come in, I've got a pot of coffee on." Opal couldn't make coffee any better than she could cook anything else, but neither of us cared. She was only seventeen, there was a lot she didn't know about. I was only eleven myself, but somehow I felt very wise when I was around Opal, wise and old and strong. I liked it that she was incompetent, and fragile. It infuriated Emmitt, and led him to abuse her. And it brought out Grandma's worst impulses, too. Grandma prized competence and a workman's efficiency above all, so that in an unspoken way there was in our family what amounted to a conspiracy against Opal. Everybody was against her, it seemed. The more evidence I had of her helplessness, the more I felt like taking care of her.

She needed me. I was eleven and she was a married woman but I knew that she needed me, and for a time, for one whole crucial summer, my entire sense of myself grew from that fact. I'd look at Opal across from her stained and cluttered table and think: Opal. I love you! In a way I had no words for I understood that love had to do with the desire to care for somebody, that one's own care was provided for inside that kind of impulse. And I'd think: I want to mean something to you, Opal. I do mean something to you. I'm talking to you, and listening. And even if what we always talk about is Emmitt, how you're stuck on Emmitt, how you love him in spite of his meanness, still it's me you're telling these things to. It's Emmitt you want but it's me you have, and I understand that even if you aren't able to.

(to be continued)

THE FREE YOU

COMMUNITY CENTER

(continued from page 1)

bowls, kitchen utensils, garbage cans, butcher's workbench. Hood, floor polisher, mops, buckets, brooms, etc. Please call DA6-8104 or DA8-4941.

(CENTER COMMITTEE)

The CCC meets at 5:00 P.M. Thursdays on the grass in front of Tressider Union on the Stanford campus. All interested persons are invited and as in most Free U. committees everyone attending is a member of the committee. For more information call 326-8104 or 328-4941.

(DESIGN CONCEPT)

As soon as we have a definite building (we thought we had one) members are encouraged to submit design ideas to CCC. From these one design will be chosen, and we will follow it as much as possible. The idea here is to get creative people to spend time and effort on the design - knowing that if their design is chosen it will be seen through to completion and not changed by whoever happens in during construction. Call 326-8104 and we'll let you know when we have a firm building.

(PEOPLE)

Buildings, and materials, and designs are all quite meaningless without involvement at a personal level by many of our community. To those of you who have already volunteered, some I know have been waiting 6 months, please be patient. To everyone else interested, the more people who help build this center, the more it will truly become a center for our total community and provide meaningful experiences in our lives. We will need every person, skilled or not skilled to help. Call DA6-8104 or DA8-4941 to help.

(BARN RAISING)

After our lease is signed, design accepted, permits acquired, and materials donated or bought, we will issue the call for the great barn raising. Gathering together on a Saturday morning under the direction of the designer and many technically qualified volunteers (contractors, electricians, plumbers, etc.) we will marathon - build the whole project. Most of the painting must necessarily follow during the week prior to the Saturday opening to the public. Our goal is a huge housewarming party to begin fall registration.

WHAT IT CAN BE

(The following letter, sent to a prospective contributor, most eloquently explains what the center can be. F.N.)

Sometimes it is very difficult to pin down exactly what we are doing or where we are going with the Free U. The summer 1968 catalog probably best shows where we are. What it doesn't say too well, and this is my fault, is where we are going in this community and why we must move here in the Midpeninsula.

Palo Alto with all of its grand parks and fine stores has no place where young people, older people, black and white people, students and teachers can get together -- together to share our experiences and our views and to get to know each other. The result of this lack is a widening gap between us all and a feeling of alienation, particularly among our young people. Two days ago, Nancy Christiansen, a 16-year-old Palo Alto High junior, died from an overdose of cocaine. She died because she and a group of friends had no more creative, exciting, and important thing to do than gather together and experiment with narcotics. There are literally hundreds of young people like her in our community. Three of them are charged with her murder. I feel that if we had our Community Center in operation many of these young people could use their energied to create, to serve, and to explore themselves and us too, in a dialog to create understanding, awareness, and meaning in a fragmented world. But if young people are going to include themselves in this work, they must be listened to, consulted, and valued as equal participants in the work. They must have the power to take part in making the decisions which affect their lives. We all must.

What is the Free University Community Center Project? Specifically, we are negotiating a lease for an 8,000 square foot downtown Palo Alto building. The street-level floor will house a coffee shop and multimedia creative center. During the day we will serve a moderately priced, very tasty lunch intended to attract businessmen, shoppers, students, teachers, and drop-outs. In the evening, we will have all types of music, poetry readings, informal discussions, experimental movies, dance and theater. We will not serve beer -- so our doors will be open to young people. Volunteers will do all the work when possible. The 4,000 square foot basement will house a creative arts and crafts center. Some of the area's most talented craftsmen are now committed to working and selling in the Center. They will also help and instruct those who wish to learn.

The Free University is now financed entirely by \$10 adult and \$2 High School membership fees per quarter. This brings in approximately \$10,000 per quarter which goes to pay the expenses of running a university of over a thousand members. Teachers receive no pay. We must turn to the larger community and to Free U. members for contributions to support projects such as the Community Center. To date, we have raised \$9,000 for the project. To open the doors we will need at least \$2,000 more. Our goal at the end of one year is an investment of \$20,000 or more. Hopefully, revenues from the coffee house and space rental from the craftsmen will carry the project and possibly generate funds for other community services later. We now have over 150 persons who want to help with their time and energy specifically on this vision. I have never seen so many people ready and able to devote time to a community project. My hope is that this may serve as a model for similar activities in many communities across our shattered nation. Enough of this! Our job is to create here and now -- where we can see it, feel it, and grow. Can you help us? Please call me if there is more you want to know.

Love,
Bob Cullenbine

F*RE*E*D*O*M

A scene in which the State can't tell you what to say or what to believe, only who to kill.

"There is a difference between good sound reasons and reasons that sound good."

The General Meeting

by vic lovell

MFU has two meetings which the membership at large is urged to attend. The first is the Coordinating Committee Meeting, which meets once a week, for about two hours. The second is the General Meeting, which meets once a month, for about four hours. The General Meeting makes basic policy decisions, e.g., that we oppose conscription on libertarian grounds. The Coordinating Committee interprets these policy decisions and creates programs to implement them, e.g., we shall demonstrate against the National Service Foundation, or support Stop the Draft Week.

The agenda for the Coordinating Committee is created informally. Any member who wants something brought up simply places the item on a list kept in the store, or brings it up under new business. Although the Coordinating Committee may refuse to consider an issue, it seldom does so. The General Meeting has an agenda which is formal and fixed. Items may be placed on this agenda by petition, by the Executive Committee, or by the Coordinating Committee. The agenda is announced to all members in this newsletter.

The purpose of the General Meeting is to stabilize policy and program and to involve as many members in making policy as possible. The consensus on important issues may vary from week to week in the Coordinating Committee Meeting. Since the agenda for the meeting is so flexible, one faction may take advantage of its momentary strength to railroad a decision through when it does not have a durable majority. This possibility is checked by making the Coordinating Committee accountable to the General Meeting. Since the entire membership receives prior notification of the General Meeting agenda, all those who are interested, involved, or informed with regard to a particular issue have the opportunity to attend and participate in the decision on that issue, even if they do not have time to go to most of the meetings.

The member who has time to participate only in an occasional General Meeting still plays an important role in determining what the organization will do because the decisions which he is involved in making stand as mandates to the Coordinating Committee. In order for an issue to be translated into action, it must first pass through the Coordinating Committee (or the Executive Committee, or be placed on a petition), then pass through the General Meeting, and then go back to the Coordinating Committee for implementation. Such a process, with its attendant checks and balances, insures, as much as humanly possible, that what MFU does is in accordance with the general will of the membership.

Though the weekly Coordinating Committee Meeting is functioning very well, monthly General Meetings have tended to be confused, disorganized, and nerve-racking. The challenge presented by the presence of MFU members who have not attended many meetings and are not familiar with critical issues and procedures is poorly met. Since this meeting provides the organization with its basic definition of its structure, goals, and leadership, I feel that we must make this meeting a good meeting.

A vicious circle is operating. Because the General Meeting makes us so uncomfortable, we regard it as an unpleasant necessity, and prefer to think about it only once a month. As a result of this the meeting is badly planned, so that it gets worse, and worse, makes us even more uncomfortable, and continues to be badly planned. The problem must be faced before anything can be done. A positive vision of community citizenship must replace the concept of the General Meeting as an unpleasant necessity.

Take the issue of policy statements on the Black Panther Party. This item appeared repeatedly on the General Meeting agenda. Often there were so many items on the agenda that it was not reached. Members who attended specially because of their concern over the Panther Question were angry and frustrated because they had wasted their evening. When the issue was discussed, an insufficient effort was made to inform the membership. The issue was not well presented in the newsletter, and not decided until months after the presentation. Only one articulate spokesman was brought to the meeting. Most members thought that the issue was an endorsement of the Black Panther Party, rather than support of the Ten Point Program and Justice for Huey. Several times the issue was not brought to a vote because a quorum was not present. Never was there adequate time for discussion. My concern here is not that the decision was unrepresentative, but rather that we failed to involve the Free University community in the issue as much as we could have. Eldridge Cleaver's forty-five minute speech at the be-in probably accomplished more than all our deliberations.

Here is how I think it should be. An entire evening is devoted to the Black Panther Question. Movies and tapes of the Black Panthers are presented. There are four articulate and informed spokesmen lined up who present their views to the meeting, two pro (one Black, himself a Panther, one white, from Peace and Freedom) and two con (one Black, an Uncle Tom, one white, hopefully a cop). After speaking they rebut each other and response to questions from the floor. Following this there is a two-hour open discussion and then the vote is taken. No matter which way the vote goes, it will have been an exciting, interesting, and informative night for everybody, the community consciousness will have been expanded, and a will to action for Black Liberation will likely have emerged.

For a better General Meeting, the following thoughts and suggestions may be helpful.

There are always too many things on the agenda. Unless there is adequate time for discussion, so that the body is ready to come to a vote, the vote will not reflect the will of the body. If the agenda is overloaded, we should call Special Meetings until it is cleared. If we really care about democracy, our meeting will be often and long.

Often we bog down in ego trips and personal conflicts which are not authentically task oriented and issue relevant. At such times, no progress towards a decision is made, and the formal rules of the meeting become an obstruction. Most deliberative bodies have ways of setting aside the question and abolishing their own structure when they need to, e.g., suspending the Rules, Going into committee of the Whole, etc. We might adopt these conventions to our own unique character: members might move fifteen minutes of confrontation, or a half an hour of psychodrama. Usually the General Meeting agenda is too flexible: it contains topics ("Black Liberation") rather than specific questions ("We support the Black Panther Party Ten Point Program"). I think this is asking too much of a body which only meets once a month and includes many members not familiar with the issues and procedures involved.

ANN THRIFT

interval in the right
nov. 1966

i awake
to sounds of
rain
in secret hours of night
to dream --
cold patches
of moondust
foam on pillow
and sheets and
body
the silver water world
outside
white sky face glimpsed
through curtains
drowned
in sea mists
of grey and light
and wind

madness storming
broken from sleep
returns losing
to dream

a bungle
dec. 1965

tra la
is a
poem i read
"for i love thee"
said a boy's poem
once
and i wanted
him

now i see
him
again
and time,
that hypocrite
of life
patterns
has
changed us

afterwards
he said,

somebody goofed

adieu, mon cher
sept. 1966

comes the night
dark
and secret,
time for wine
love
and stars--
eventide goes too soon

comes the light of
early
morning
lover's faces
lose
their anonymity
cigarettes
in the grey dawn
time to leave
and
hit the road

wake up, babe
the
party's over

no. 1
1966

goodie-crumbs
down the slums
walk the
luvlorn

smut
slut

call the fuzz

screams
a
rat

so how come i'm not in love?

no. 2

BLACK

night

winds

cover
all

smother lovers
bury streets
kill secrets

find holes.

in S.F.
march 1967

late afternoon dusk
blackens to
night
my love is gone
and the
call of the city streets
pulls
my wandering soul



the melancholies
dec. 1965

he came to see me
after that night.
i didn't know, i wanted
to help him
because he was (i thought)
a human being
then he said, girl you're all wrong
you'll never make it so
don't try
but i wasn't sore --
just sad
because i'd thought i
loved him
only it wasn't that
i said, you can't see get some
contacts
(he's still blind you know)
i'm sorry -- i don't want to
hurt you
he wanted to say but
didn't
instead,
why must people be so inhibited?
and i showed him the door
later when he'd gone i
smoked
and thought
about how sometimes
life is just too much
crap.

ART

A1.. DEATH DRAWING -- Marc Sadir

This will be a course in drawing the human corpse. Call 767-0432 for the time.

Models needed; good pay.

A2.. ADVANCED COMB AND KLEENEX -- Buzz N. Wissell

Only people signed up last fall can attend. No Scotties, please. Classes must adjourn at 10 p.m. -- up tight neighbors.

CRAFTS

C1. GETTING THE GOODS FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT -- Socrates Klepto

A three-quarter series: 1. Burglary; 2. Embezzling; 3. Grand Larceny. This quarter, we will burgle places to be announced.

C2.. BOILING WATER -- Crooked Betty

Elementary cooking. Bring an egg. Meets at Tresidder Cafeteria Kitchen as usual.

HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

HS1.. SMOKING IN THE JOHN -- Cap Freeman

Learn to toke, drop, hit, caudle, and sniff without getting caught by the principal.

Meets in the boy's room nearest the gym twenty minutes after the start of third period every day.

HS2.. PARENT POWER NOW! -- O. Mahm

We can't control our kids at home; let's control 'em at school! We'll sit in at the classrooms until all the teachers resign from the P. T. A., then take over.

PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY, MEDITATION AND DENTISTRY

Pl.. TO AWAKE OR NOT TO AWAKE -- Rip V. Winkle

We will sleep for the whole quarter. Next quarter, we'll discuss how it felt. Did you miss Coordinating Committee meetings? Guess who won the elections? and other questions. No snorers.

For information after October 1, don't call 323-2822.

RELAXATION

R1.. FREE LOVE -- Wanda Maykitt

Anybody, any time, any place. For information, call 411.

SENSORY AWARENESS

SA1..EXISTENCE -- Ed Berkeley

"I turn on, therefore I am" -- Zvap

Each of us will meet in his own home at his own time.

KIDS

K1.. SPIN THE BOTTLE - FREE U STYLE -- D. O. Mann

Modern versions of nursery games.

"House": Beat up the kids, dirty the floor, watch TV, sue your spouse for mental cruelty, hide the liquor from the kids and hide the dope from dad.

"finger-painting": Make psychedelic designs on little Suzy's buttocks, paint acid on your fingers and suck your thumb while you watch all those groovy pictures.

"Blocks": Build a wall around the teacher, fool her by using cement, ha-ha-ha, pupil power now.

and next quarter..

the fall quarter catalogue

by larry tesler

Well, folks, only a few courses have been submitted to the Curriculum and Utilities Committee for next quarter, but our reporter-on-the-spot is right there to give you a smattering in advance of the fall catalogue....

SPECIAL PROJECTS

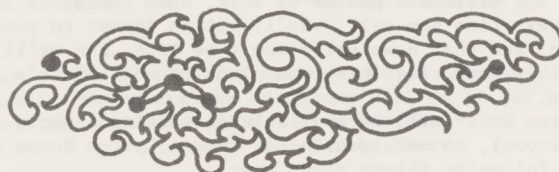
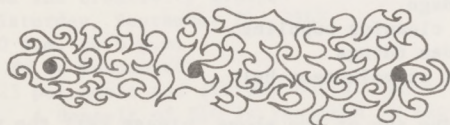
SPl.. MINI-COUNTRIES -- Elmer ("Big Dreamer") Koule

We'll move the revolution to Yemen, kick Nasser's ass out of there, and start a hippie commune in the desert.

We need volunteers: veterans of the Haight-Ashbury Wars; a chief monitor (eye patch desirable); do-it-yourself gas mask makers; negotiators; refugees to solicit foreign aid.

AND MORE

Please send in your own courses by September 1 to ROBB CRIST, c/o MIDPENINSULA FREE UNIVERSITY, 1061 EL CAMINO REAL, MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA 94025. No put-ons please.



LYTTON HOUSE COMMUNE

by Marc Porat

At the last General Meeting, the Free University made a very significant change of direction. The Free U now has a full time working staff of ten people, seven of whom are going to live together as a staff commune in Lytton House.

For those who aren't acquainted with this charming citadel, Lytton House is an architectural timepiece situated on the corner of Lytton and Bryant Streets in Palo Alto, overlooking the Palo Alto Bastille. Robb Crist has held the lease on the place for about a year, and Lytton House, left alone to do its thing, became the crashpad for anyone going from San Francisco to Big Sur, and vice-versa; actually it was the National Convention Headquarters of Dharma Bums and Other Psychedelic Itinerants (unchartered). The whole time the Police Department held its breath and waited for the great big four story house with all its gables and porches to float off into the clouds and disappear in a puff of felonious smoke. Which it never did; and so they raided the house a few times under the pretext of looking for dirt, vermin, disease or other Communist activities. The dharma bums really dug it, and welcomed the authorities with utmost Zen politeness, which (as everyone knows) is most frustrating to the police. So, to sublimate their authoritarian impulses, they condemned two floors as "uninhabitable" which only made the parties groovier because now instead of fifty people sleeping in ten bedrooms, they had to sleep in six. Can you dig? Well, those dreamy days are long over, and the Free U is about to re-activate the house. The seven staff members who are going to live there have been working arduously and steadfastly for quite some time on the day to day kinds of things that have to be done to run a university of 1,200 people. Such as print a catalog, run an office, register people, throw Be-ins, and send out newsletters. They will form a commune of dropped out people who use their creative energies to "do their thing", to build a community; in turn, the community will support these people by giving them a roof over their heads, food in their stomachs and some spending money. This kind of a turned-on symbiotic relationship could only exist where there is a tremendous commitment by individuals and by the community to a larger vision where someday everyone who wants to can drop out of what he feels is meaningless activity and develop his creativity in whatever way he feels suits him best. Bob Cullenbine, our Community Center Coordinator, visualizes a day when one third of Palo Alto and Menlo Park will be Free U communes or shops; not so far out when you come to think about it.

The Free University has made this project possible by financing it with only four salaries. This means that seven people will live together as cheaply as four. (A small note -- a "full-time salary" in the Free U., as in the peace movement in general, is \$150 a month, which is a comfortable subsistence). Two of those salaries are already being given (to Kathy Kirby, the Office Manager, and to Bob Palmer, Super Printer), so the total added cost to the community is \$300 a month. The seven people, Jim, Docey, Marc, Gail, Jan, Kathy, and Bob, are going to move in sometime in August.

This represents a major change for the Free U. since we are beginning to understand that we can't run a community successfully without a stable staff. The bulk of our work will still be done by volunteers with the staff coordinating the different phases of work. Some immediate impacts -- next time you call, you'll get an answer to your question, and that newsletter won't be late, and we'll see to it that your class has some place to meet. That's a promise.

Lytton House will be available (including a photo lab and darkroom), so make your needs known. Lytton House needs the following things right now:

SUMMER QUARTER BUDGET

FIXED EXPENSES	
Headquarters	700
Press payments	738
Collator payments	350
Registration	30
Refunds	100
	1918

SEMI-FIXED EXPENSES	
Printshop	3000
Salaries	3630
Be-in (summer)	360
High-school project	200
Artists' reimbursements for store thefts	350
Retroactive salary raises	100
	7640

Salaries breakdown:

printer	495
newsletter editor	495
recording secretary	165
curriculum coordinator	495
office manager	495
storekeeper	495*
2 unspecified salaries	990
	(3630)

FLUID EXPENSES	
Treasurer's fund	75
Operational fund	700 (plus)
Executive Committee	100
Political Action Committee	200
	1075

TOTAL: \$10,633

*The MFU Store will reimburse the budget for this expense.

In the last days of spring
Iris blue and sun no longer new
Embers warm the hearth
and the bees hum on a lower note.

Love smells in the valleys
and the trees are replete
with leaf and flower.

The proud not-mothers-yet
promenade in the village square
and youths having tasted of
loves fruit tell stories in
the dying firelight.

- gallons and gallons of paint
- paint brushes and rollers
- borrow a floor sander and a spray gun (plus compressor)
- shelves, cabinets, any furniture or good wood
- yardage
- any cleaning supplies
- garden things
- lots of volunteer help

If you have any of the above, please call the store and leave a message with Kathy Kirby.

CO OPERATIVE LIVING NOW

Maybe we all can't split to the country and live on a communal farm.

But if we've got to do it here, we don't have to put up with ridiculous rent, utility and food bills, narrow-minded and uptight landlords.

Cooperative Living Now is a thing for people who want in out of the isolation and alienation of urban living.

Whether you want to join a

- coop household
- experimental commune
- clan
- Harrod family
- nudist family
- a stone house
- live-in encounter group
- yoga household
- "movement" house
- grain house
- mini-industry house
- artist colony

or whatever's your thing, we'll try to put you on to like people. We'll also keep you up on existing coop households and how they manage and unmanage. Finally, we'll maintain a secret and mysterious list of rambling, old houses for rent or sale.

Send us your name and your brand of cooperative living, as well as your thoughts on group living. Dig, your name won't appear in print if you prefer anonymity. A member of the Project will contact you when we find enough people of like styles.

Steve Lerman

Cooperative Living Project

MFU Store

1061 El Camino Real, M.P., 94025

To sign up to labor on this project, as well as incorporating your ideas, leave your name at the Store and we'll contact you immediately. There will be no regular meetings.

Creative Family Encounters

The creative encounter is a new approach in integrating the entire family's self expression, primarily through art. The integration process is achieved through various media such as clay, paint, rhythm, body contact and movement. Children readily communicate their inner worlds of feelings, beliefs, ideas and come through clearly to those who can listen. Their experiences as well as their parents' can then be verbalized leading to improved interpersonal relationships and to discovery of one's creative potential. This encounter, involving the entire family, is meant to explore closeness versus loneliness and to develop growth, mutual understanding and more joy.

The encounter will be led by Frieda Porat, a licensed Marriage and Family Counselor with M.A. degrees in Psychology from Manchester University, England, and Jerusalem, Israel, who is currently in private practice specializing in couples and encounter groups and is conducting regularly 24-hour marathon groups in Palo Alto, and by Shari Street, professional artist and teacher who has worked extensively in recreation, awareness and creativity groups.

Date: Saturday, September 21, 1968

Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Place: To be announced

Fee: \$25 per adult and \$10 per child. No children under 7. A deposit of \$10 is required on registration. Number of families is limited.

For additional information call: Frieda Porat, 321-4200.

NIKITA'S NOOK



AIN'T ROBERT of the PRESS
everyman's martyr?

"We can't cross a bridge until we come to it; but I always like to lay down a pontoon ahead of time."

--Reinhold Niebuhr

"It is a wise plan to let the cat out of the bag yourself. Otherwise the neighbors will do it for you, and by that time the cat may have kittens."

--Bertha Shore

THE NEW SCHOOL

an elementary school based on the belief:

That learning involves the parent as much as it does the child, and that the parent therefore should be involved as much as the children and the staff in the growth of the school community. That our children require and deserve a free, creative, and supportive atmosphere in which to develop an understanding and appreciation of their particular needs and desires, their particular skills and talents.

That each child is different, and that these differences must be respected and developed, not ignored and suppressed.

That our children should be given the opportunity to acquire a more accurate picture of American society than most schools are willing or able to give them.

That the learning of basic skills, such as reading, writing, and arithmetic, need not be minimized because freedom, creativity, and social awareness are being maximized.

That no uniform tuition fee should exist, and that each family should contribute financially what it feels it can afford (no family should be excluded because of financial difficulty).

That a central purpose of the new school is not to protect our children and ourselves from the deficiencies and inequities of American society, but to develop a better understanding of the kind of society we would prefer to live in, and to strengthen our resolve to fight for the birth of that society.

The new school, located in Palo Alto, has already begun on a limited, experimental basis this summer. Whether it continues in the fall depends to a large degree on whether enough parents want it to continue. Are you interested in participating in the growth of this school? If so, please call Mary Lou Greenberg, 328-4698, or Rusty Keilch, 321-6624.

COMMUNITY CRISIS CLINIC

Bill Mulligan

As one looks through the Free University catalog, it soon becomes apparent that more than half of the courses offered deal in one way or another with communication, group dynamics, trust, sensitivity, and understanding. To my mind (the mind of a Stanford graduate in psychology) this reflects the demand for, and concern with, these areas. The Free U. is responding to the demand, in the courses that it is offering, but, as of the present time, its efforts are relatively uncoordinated and do not specifically cover all the areas that would be the concern of the general "crisis" clinic that I would like to propose.

The basic premise of this clinic is that community responsibility, involving every qualified member of society, is in one way, and possibly the only way, of meeting the increasing personal problems of the members of that society. This clinic would be basically preventative rather than curative in that it would attempt to provide direct and concerned help to troubled adolescents, in particular, rather than leaving these people without assistance. Intensive or extensive therapy would not be the concern of this clinic; it would provide references for those who need more intensive professional assistance. It could also possibly serve to disseminate information on other mental health facilities available in the community.

This clinic would provide a register of people with varying degrees of professional ability, from the surrounding community, who are willing to offer one or more hours of their time each week FREE OF CHARGE to whomever calls the clinic and voices a need for help. The program would emphasize participation by any mature adult who feels concerned. There is a tremendous number of highly qualified and progressive individuals in the Stanford - Palo Alto community, and, hopefully, they will recognize the potential value of such a clinic.

Slightly different types of community health services have proved very valuable in various parts of the coun-

TWO PROFESSIONAL MARATHONS

Branches in the Sunlight, Leaves in the Wind: Sensory Integration via group work.

Sensory Awareness, Encounter, Contact, Communication, Excitement, Creativity. Two 24-hour Marathons, 10 p.m. Friday to 10 p.m. Saturday. Conducted by Gene Neufeld.

Alternation of Exercises and Encounter. Exercises include Role Playing, Psychodrama, Movement, Meditation, Breathing, Mirroring, Echoing.

Date: August 10 and 17

Fee: \$40 each marathon, 2 for \$75. \$10 non-refundable deposit for each. Meals are included - cooking in accordance with Tao, the unique principle.

Enrollment is limited to the first 20 people. Send checks to Margot McNeil

27857 Moody Road

Los Altos Hills, 94022.

Gene Neufeld has over 10 years of professional experience leading groups. He has studied at the Sorbonne and Columbia University, including post-graduate work in gestalt therapy, group work, psychiatric social work, Orgone therapy, Zen, Tai Chi Chuan, and most of the generally used encounter group techniques. He is presently conducting workshops training professionals to be sensitivity leaders. He is also doing private work.

try, and I am sure that a program of this sort would do amazing things here. Many of the details have yet to be developed to the finished state; your ideas and suggestions will be greatly appreciated. Would anyone who would like to offer an hour or two for this program please call 328-4941. Call even if you cannot participate directly, but would like to see such a program started.

COMMUNITY

by dave teegarden

an editorial series

Well, it's like this: I ran for coordinator and gave a speech and all that, and lost by four votes, and I thought that the 97% of the Free University members who were not there might be interested in some of the things I expressed. I decided to run after a year and a half of involvement in the Free U, and after following the movement of the most active group up to Kim's short editorial in the newsletter. After deciding that I was indeed qualified, I proceeded to observe everything that was happening as closely as possible, read the bylaws many times, thought about where we were and where we wanted to go, and how to get there. My summary feeling was that the present style of the Free U process (in terms of meetings, store operations, and individual life styles) was blocking the development of efficiency, strength, and responsibility within the 'institutional' structure and the growth of community solidarity within the Free U membership. Below I am illustrating some of my impressions of where we are, followed by some concrete proposals on where we should go and how to get there.

Now, one of the most prominent Free U functions is Coordinating Committee meetings. Sometimes it sort of reminds me of a peer group that got together and chorused, "Hey! Let's get together and have a CLUB! We'll invite everybody to every meeting, and everybody who acts sincere can have a position, and we'll get a CLUBHOUSE, and all be happy together, cause we'll really have something going!" I sense that the original intention was to create a context in which autonomous, responsible individuals could participate in and have an impact on a larger moving body, or force. The near historical precedents of this vision were, in my mind, the FSM and the Hippie ethic. In the CC meetings, however, I saw a very interdependent social network, in which there was a static hierarchy of power and authority, in which each person had a narrow and rigid role, and where most communication was concerned with housekeeping. The dissenters always dissented, the barkers always barked, the accountants accounted, and the majority were effectively silent until Vic and Robb could do their thing and the decision could be made.

Now, take the Free U as a whole: the nearest parallel I can think of is a family corporation, where the family (central peer group) is closely knit, does the administrating, and spend the money for its special interests, while the stockholders (members) got certain benefits but are blocked from free communication with the family. Within the Free "family", a great emphasis has come to be placed upon business and selling; many of the individuals' personalities reflect this emphasis. Note, for instance, that the term 'hustling', is oft used these days, and a style of persuasion is prominent. The major capital of the Free U is invested into printing and catalog production, and these serve as its advertising media. Is it wrong to sell a good product? Well, I feel that we get hung up in our activity on the selling, and pay too little attention to the quality of the product. After all, a good product sells itself, right? Like, it's kind of a big thing to come out with a far out course description, and every body gets excited when a course gets more than fifty people, and the people are having a good time at the class, but ought't we to consider seriously the effects of the courses on people's lives and what really is the meaning of education and self criticism? A psychodrama friend of mine recently commented that everyone seemed to be giving courses on their own hang-ups -- dig that if you can. The 'family' members develop 'salable' personalities; they become the embodiment of Reisman's Lonely Crowd - essentially outer directed, valuing sociability and persuasive logic over authenticity, integrity, and intimacy.

Before I go on, let me make a distinction between culture, or community, and institution. In my mind, a community is a group of people who communicate and have relationships with each other, and share common beliefs and direction, while an institution is an abstract structure that is grounded in the community and designed to implement its goals. The way it usually works is that a community, or culture creates its institutions. The Free U was created and developed by people who were then cultural nomads, in a sense; what we are now doing, I believe, is using the Free U as a means of creating a new subculture, and I think that it is the only way we can go. We must create a community which has some solidarity and direction.

Now imagine that the Free U is a ship on a large body of water; the 'family' administrators are running the ship, tending to maintenance, navigation, fueling, etc. What's wrong with our ship? For one thing, most of the energy is spent in maintenance, in budget keeping, defending against the outer forces (City of Palo Alto), and adding new compartments (new committees, more courses, more members, and the Community Center). The majority of the passengers are kept in 20-50 person compartments (classes), and come individually to the helm (store and Coordinating Committee meetings), where they are expected to make known their compartment changes and may occasionally get a passing glance from the crew and the captain. There are rats leaving the ship; the crew runs about looking for leaks, and meets weekly to discuss leaks. The ship is now either directionless or motionless - I can't tell quite which.

What are we going to do? I don't think that the present Free U forms of coming together will ever create a sense of community, for it takes more than compartmentalized two hour classes and two hour meetings to create community. These segments are tightly bound by topical and procedural necessity. I think that, especially since we can't live together as a community, we should create a context of coming together where we have time to tune in to each other, develop a common style of communication, and share some deep human experiences. Specifically, I propose that we have monthly community marathons, where we could truly come to grips with each other and our quest. I am glad that we had the Free U psychodrama marathon - those who were there will know better what I am talking about and will remember that we did indeed have a short time where we talked about the Free U. However, I think that people got a little hung up on two things - one was that Chung is necessary to have a marathon, and one was that rage is where its at. I've been at a number of marathons - Hussain was there some of the time, and rage was there too, but the fundamental driving force that 'makes' marathons is you, baby. It is you, and your drives and needs and desires and humanity, the same you that needs to be free and have community. We aren't going any place unless we believe in ourselves.

I have several other suggestions. I think that General meetings should be used to debate issues, and voting should be done by mail - right now we are appallingly distant from our ideal in this area. I think that we should all keep in mind that the things we do as Free U are just a portion of our total lives, and that we need to recognize the existence of both levels in our thinking and in our relationships to each other. Like, Kathy is not just store manager, but a human being, and there's more than one way to relate to her and everybody else around.

I hope that I have not offended anyone too badly - sometimes I see it like the King's New Clothes, and "Even the presidents of the United States must sometimes have to stand naked."

MORE ON GENERAL MEETINGS

by John Shippee

Recently, a number of complaints have been voiced about the structure and length of MFU general meetings. In recent months they have been too short to give full attention to all of the business brought before them. A number of items have finally, out of desperation, been referred to the coordinating committee for decision. Paradoxically, they have simultaneously been too long (4½ to 5½ hours, with a short break) for the endurance levels of all but the most dedicated.

We might take care of both problems at once by changing our procedure as outlined below. In the first place, I don't think it would be out of the question to devote an entire day to the general meeting, which might be divided as follows:

- 9 to 11: committee meetings and informal group discussions of controversial issues on the agenda.
- 11 to 2: lunch, break, go home, go swimming or whatever else suggests itself.
- 2 to 5: previously announced agenda items in order
- 5 to 8: another break
- 8 to 11: or earlier if necessary, the rest of the agenda.

Such a schedule would have a number of advantages. Among them is that much of the preliminary rap that we have on most things could be gotten through in the morning. Another is that people interested in only one or two issues could come to the session in which they were to be decided. If the meeting were held in a groovy enough place (or even if not,) the extended breaks would give us time to do things (such as eat and play) together other than to decide issues of such grave and lasting importance that they hang lots of people up with each other.



Control Police Guns, Too

by Larry Booth

I read a note in the Free You Newsletter suggesting that everyone write letters to their congressman in favor of tighter gun controls. Some thoughts occurred to me at that point. What if we have tighter gun controls? Personally, I have been opposed to guns. I do not have a gun, and have not until recently even considered getting a gun. It occurred to me that when the Constitution was written, the provision that the populace be allowed to carry guns was put into that Constitution so that the populace could defend itself against tyranny. Whether it be tyranny from outside or tyranny from within, it seems to me that this is still a valid concept.

But unfortunately, guns get into the hands of lunatics. Many people who had much to offer society have been killed by these nuts. I do not believe that any gun control laws can prevent this. Especially when we consider that many of these nuts are on our Police force today. Therefore, I advocate that the public be allowed to arm itself if it so chooses as a protection against tyranny. And I mean tyranny by a police force and an army that is not responsive to the needs and desires of humanity. If we are going to disarm, it's got to be a total disarmament, or we are setting ourselves in front of a governmental police force firing squad.

Considering the direction this country is taking, I don't think this is an unrealistic concept. This is, in fact, the sort of thing that happened in Nazi Germany during the 1930's. The power was removed from the people's hands because the government knew best... and in the name of "public safety." We can only eliminate violence by removing guns, all guns from the hands of all of the people, whether they are civilians, members of the police force, or members of the armed services.

Violence of any sort by any group as a solution to human conflicts must be abolished, if our ever-increasing population is to live together on this planet. But if we are to control guns in the hands of the public, we must also control the guns in the hands of the police and the armed forces. Ultimately we must eliminate all violence. Not restrict it. But eliminate it.

"Straight-from-the-shoulder" politicians should talk from a little higher up. --Senator John F. Parker

"Kindliness antedates psychiatry by hundreds of years; its antiquity should not lessen your opinion of its usefulness." --J. Roswell Gallagher, M.D.

Electronic computers are increasingly taking over the more routine kinds of intellectual work such as arithmetic computation, keeping files up to date, and sales analyses. And more sophisticated forms of information-processing continually are being introduced, including doing the complicated algebraic manipulations that give formulas for the cross section of a nuclear reaction, or enhancing the contrast of the Mariner pictures of Mars.

However, it is important to understand the the present applications of computers have significant limitations. Present computer programs are not really intelligent and have very limited ability to recognize patterns. For example, no one yet has written a computer program capable of identifying people in a picture, something a child can do readily. Although humans are able to perform such tasks without effort, we don't fully know how to specify such tasks as a precise sequence of steps to be carried out by a computer.

It is important to see how far we can go in making computers do intellectual work.

Can we make them as intelligent as humans?

Can we program them to prove difficult theorems in mathematics?

Can they make scientific discoveries, carry on an intelligent conversation, make the kind of decisions required in champion level chess?

Can they do everyday jobs--operate cars on our highways safer and faster than people drive them, or automatically construct houses?

The answer to these and similar questions is that we can't do these things yet, and what's more, there is no clear plan for accomplishing the goals. However, in this country and abroad, research groups are working hard and resourcefully to extend these frontiers. The Stanford Artificial Intelligence Project of the Computer Science Department is one of them.

The project is located in the Donald C. Power Laboratories in the foothills of the Stanford campus. It includes a large laboratory with a PDP-6 computer, eight teletypes, and six TV-like consoles connected to the computer. Also connected to the computer are a TV camera, a microphone, a speaker system, and an artificial arm and hand. The computer is operated in a time-sharing mode that allows several persons to work at once, either together or on separate problems. This article will discuss some of the group's projects. The first of these is the hand-eye project which is attempting to provide the computer with a human-like ability to see and manipulate its environment.

(SEEING ISN'T ALWAYS BELIEVING)

The eye of the computer is an ordinary television camera. When the computer gives the appropriate command, a rectangular area from the field of view of the TV camera is read into the memory of the computer. For example, if the computer reads the full field of view, it will receive 333×250 or 83,250 numbers, each of which gives the light intensity in one direction from the camera on a 0-15 scale. The problem is to reduce this huge mass of information into a few meaningful statements about the environment.

One of the first programs to be written using the camera locates cube-shaped blocks. It accomplishes this by starting at the bottom of the picture and examining each horizontal line a point at a time until it finds a light spot. Then it looks in a little circle around this point until it finds a dark-to-light transition which is presumably a point on the edge of a cube.

(continued on page 16)

The Thinking Computer

how long can this sort of thing continue?

by john mccarthy



John McCarthy is a professor of computer science at Stanford University, director of Stanford's Artificial Intelligence Project, and an active member of the MFU, where he lectures on "Technology and Man." He was recently appointed the MFU's secret representative to the Soviet Union, where he is spending the next 9 months. This article first appeared in Stanford Today, and is reprinted with the author's permission.

(continued)

Taking this point as a center, it strikes another circle and finds another dark-to-light transition. Continuing this process, it traces around the outline of the cube until it comes back to its starting point. This gives it about 100 points on the edge of the cube. The next step is to fit these points into straight lines and compute the intersections of these lines which correspond to the visible corners of the cube. Unless the cube is lined up with the line of sight from the camera, there will be six edges and six vertices, as in Figure 1. The lines and vertices calculated by this process are displayed on a TV-like cathode ray tube which allows the programmer to see what the computer thinks and sees. Such a description of the scene can be used by a program that finds blocks and stacks them with the aid of an artificial arm and hand. The arm is about the same size as a human arm and has six joints operated by electric motors that can be turned on and off by the computer. A seventh motor opens and closes a vise-like hand. The hand program computes the sequence of motions of the arm necessary to pick up the block that the eye program has found and puts it in a designated location. These motions are carried out by a program that turns on the motors in the required sequence and lets each motor run until the kinesthetic sensors (potentiometers) tell it that the joint operated by this motor is at the correct angle.

Then the eye program finds another block, and the arm program picks it up and makes motions calculated to set it squarely on top of the first. If there are errors in the proper placement of the blocks, the program makes adjustments and nudges the cubes so that one is squarely on top of the other.

All this is just a first step toward a long range goal of being able to make computers do useful work that involves seeing the outside world and manipulating it. It is through this process that we envisage computers performing such tasks as driving cars and automatically constructing houses.

The results obtained from the hand-eye project could be useful in probing space, including the exploration of Mars. For example, let us consider an automated biological laboratory (ABL). A television camera and a storage cube might be used. The camera would have a variety of lenses for magnifications from telescopic to microscopic, and an arm would permit the camera to focus from many positions. It might be placed on a tower to look at the landscape, or be attached to a microscope to look at slides. It could overlook the immediate foreground and control an arm for picking up samples or guide the motion of the ABL over the ground. Another position would allow the camera to look inside the ABL to see the positions of movable parts. Several cameras may be taken if the workload or reliability requires it. The computer can transfer information from the storage tube into its memory either en masse or point by point. Computer programs compress

picture information for digital transmission and also use the information to make decisions.

The arms could use tools such as shovels, coring drills, and a variety of clamps for holding objects of various shapes.

We believe it is reasonable to consider basing much of the ABL's mechanical activities upon a set of general purpose computer-controlled manipulators. Each manipulator would consist of a fast, firm positioner, with several degrees of freedom, and an attachment interface that could hold a variety of special tools, graspers, or sensors. Interchangeability would mean much more flexibility and capability then could be obtained by the same number of actuators installed in particular experiments for fixed purposes.

The ABL will be carrying out simultaneously a wide variety of experiments in a number of different fields. Many of these experiments are of kinds that on each involve continuous supervision by the experimenter. The round trip signal time precludes continuous supervision, and so we have emphasized computer control. Nevertheless, we want to make human supervision as effective as possible, and this requires very sophisticated earth control.

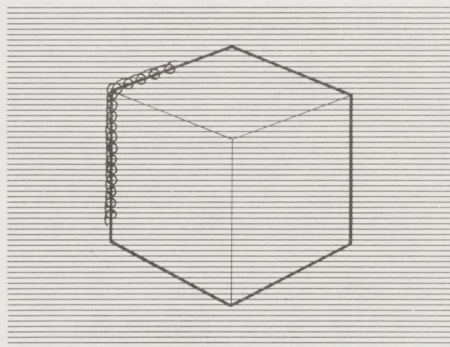
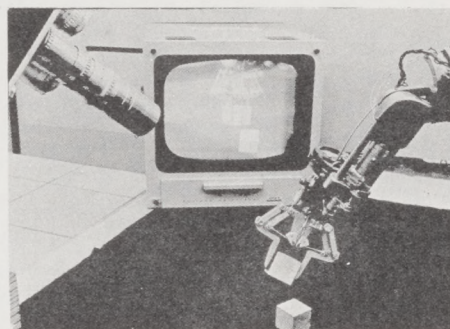


Figure 1



(HYPOTHESIS FORMULATION)

One general area in which humans out-perform computers is in formulating hypotheses to explain data. Given some surprising events or experimental results, how does one explain them?

The Heuristic Dendral program in our laboratory is one step in an attempt to understand some mechanisms of hypothesis formation. A well-defined task in organic chemistry is this typical problem: chemists seek to explain experimental data by stating which chemical molecule could have produced those data. The data are from a mass spectrometer, an instrument which breaks bonds in a chemical molecule and produces a bar graph indicating structural features of the molecule. Even when the chemist knows the number of atoms of each type in the molecule, say, four carbons, nine hydrogens, one nitrogen, and two oxygens ($C_4H_9NO_2$) there are many possible structures which might explain the data. (In this example there are over 1,000 possible molecules having this composition, about 240 of which are molecules occurring in nature.)

Evaluating all the possible molecular structures for any but the simple structures is a prohibitively complex task even for a computer. The alternative is to use chemical and "judgmental" rules of thumb (heuristics) to guide the hypothesis-generator. As soon as a candidate structure begins to look implausible, for example, because the generator has just attached an oxygen atom, that candidate and all others of the same class are discarded.

(continued on page 17)

(continued)

The experimental data can also be used to rule out classes of unlikely explanations. For example, the data can indicate that a carboxyl radical (COOH) is probably in the desired structure so that only candidates with that radical are generated. Using many such heuristics, the computer program now generates a short list of candidate structures, ordered from most to least plausible.

The program will be of practical interest to chemists, and also will provide a valuable framework for studying the processes of formulating hypotheses.

Another of our projects is writing a program for playing chess. As a Russian computer scientist recently said, chess plays the role in artificial intelligence that the fruit fly plays in genetics. Just as the genetics of *drosophila* are studied not to breed better flies, but rather to learn the laws of heredity, so we write chess programs not because it is important that computers play good chess, but instead because chess provides a good means for comparing our ideas about the processes of intelligence with human performance.

Like previous chess programs our new one will explore part of the "tree" of alternatives available to the machine and its opponent. Experiments with previous programs show that while the machine can look at several thousand positions in choosing its move, many times as many as a human examines, it wastes most of this effort in examining positions which a human does not bother with for various good reasons. Our new program will contain several strategies intended to reduce the amount of waste motion and we hope that it will be able to beat the current computer chess champion, a program written by Richard Greenblatt of Massachusetts Institute of Technology that recently won the class D trophy in a Boston tournament.

At present we can neither speak to nor write to computers as we do with people. Instead we use a punch card or a teletype. One of our projects is concerned with how we may speak to the computer.

The "ear" of the computer is a microphone. The changes in air pressures produced by our speech are recorded by the computer 20,000 times per second. If we plot these changes in pressure as a time vs. pressure graph, we will see a speech wave such as the one given in the figure below. Depending on the shape of the mouth (vocal tract) this waveform takes different shapes. Phoneticians have, in fact, classified the sounds we produce according to the shape of our vocal tract. There are about 40 such different sounds (phonemes) in English.

When one utters a sentence consisting of several sounds the computer must first find the boundaries between the sounds before it can decide what the individual sounds are. This is a difficult process since the shape of the vocal tract is continually changing and there is no clear-cut point in time in which we stop saying one sound and start another. However, Figure 2 shows how the computer segments the speech wave into sustained parts which usually represent different sounds and transitional parts which usually represent the phoneme boundaries. This division is made by dividing the speech wave into very small segments and selecting those adjacent segments with similar waveform amplitude and zero crossings and combining these into larger segments.

Phoneticians have classified the sounds we make into groups such as vowels, fricatives, stops, etc. This grouping is made on the basis of the degree of closure of the vocal tract. The computer program first classifies each segment as belonging to one of the groups and then proceeds to find which element of the group has parameters similar to that of the segment. When these programs are completed we expect the computer to listen to a speaker and print the corresponding string of phonemes.

Although our work in the artificial intelligence laboratory thus far has been exceedingly complex, we still are on the outermost frontier. However, basic principles must be firmly laid first. We have a long way to go; we are not sure when we will get there, but progress steadily is being made.

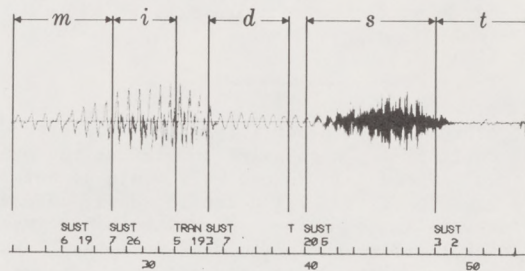


Figure 2

NEW VOCATIONS BE-IN

Dozens of opportunities for social change
An old vocation supresses you; a NEW VOCATION
expresses y o u !

Alternative Futures and New Vocation group will have a
happening (CA4):

1. We'll see how we can help one another
2. Exchange ideas and specific leads for turned-on new vocations
3. We will share our concerns and warm fellowship
4. We will create an exciting new and useful business, if some are interested.

Details:

What: A New Vocations be-in

When: August 3 (Sat.) & August 4 (Sun.) in the redwoods

Where: The Friends (Quakers) Retreat Camp, at Ben Lomond in the Santa Cruz Mountains. We have space for 30 persons, at \$1.00 per person, each person to bring sleeping bag and food for two days to share with everyone else. Cars will leave from a central point.

How: Sign up at the MFU Store. You will be called

NEW VOCATION by Norma Michael

Hey, don't bug Me (I'll bug myself)
Don't tell me what to do, I'm doing myself.
Somewhere, sometime we'll both agree,
I'll dig you, If you'll dig me.
But now let go, Just feel the flow!
Don't sweat bringing me around
To what you feel I expound.
You needn't fear, tomorrow is here.
Now is Now
And wow it's free, being me.

back to tell you if ou have been oked to go. List is to be in Berkeley as well as at the Free U. If over 30 persons sign up then we will have another meeting as the demand requires.

Note: About food - We will need about fifteen persons to please cook spaghetti to bring on Saturday, to be reheated and served that day.

We hope to show some films at the evening out doors, so bring a sweater. We may go swimming the next day; thus, a swim suit can be taken along.

COURSES

X 20: HAPPENINGS: 928-A Irving Street, San Francisco, Thursdays, 7:30 P.M. In each time, one person will do a happening. Any medium or media welcome. Individuals are responsible for their own thing. Purpose: To experience the unity of order-chaos, planning-improvisation, idea-action, sanity-insanity, audience-performer, reality-dream, meaning-absurdity. Ken Myers, 681-2438.

K 3: TRIPPY KIDS- August 1. Trip to beekeeping, 1:00p.m. Call Barbara Martin, 851-8356.

The starting date of Andy Smith's course PO 5, The Relation of Politics and Economics to Sex, has been changed to the first Friday in August 8 pm. 365-7553.

C8: SANDCASTING CANDLES - San Gregorio Free Beach, all day, August 3. See Catalogue, p. 9.

P 13 MAN IS A FALLEN ANGEL AS WELL AS A NAKED APE :Class will meet weekend of Aug. 9-11 at 27741 Elena, L.A.H. Class will start at 9p.m. Fri. night & go through Sun. lunch which will allow talking. Bring sleeping bags. Please call 948-3368 (Kathy Kirby) for information & to say whether you will be there so we can plan food. If you have art supplies for groups please bring them.

SON OF PEOPLE HEAPS

Two women signed up for course SA28. The instructor couldn't decide which one to eliminate, so he is leading two sections.

re: Peace Games

In pursuit of realism, one participant has volunteered the use of a .22 rifle, with which to arm our invading force (blanks, of course). However, it would be pointless to so arm one of the half-dozen invaders, unless all were likewise armed. So we are asking for the use (preferably .22) rifles and pistols. Warning -- blanks are highly corrosive, so don't lend us your Huskavarna.

X21: Beginning Draft Counselling. A semi-traditional type course designed primarily for high school people (other folks are welcome, though). The course will investigate various basic aspects of Selective Service and counselling techniques. Emphasis on meaning of SSS forms, appeal procedures, pre-induction physicals, rights and duties of registrants, C.O., and emigration. First meeting 25 July, 8 p.m., at 251 Webster St., P.A. For info., call Rich Patocchi, 327-1687.

Germany will militarize herself out of existence;
England will expand herself out of existence;
America will spend herself out of existence.

Nikolai Lenin, 1917

Saturn - 2068 A.D. - excerpt from a small newspaper article on the 5th page:

"Our scientists and astronomers have concluded that there must be some sort of intelligent being on our small neighbor, planet Earth. It takes intelligence to blow oneself up."

Susanne Garvey, 1968

TO ALL COURSE LEADERS

We are having a problem with many of our courses: teachers who promised to call back students are not doing it, and the students are calling the Free U pissed off. We don't blame them. As we see it, the Free University brings together three elements: teachers, students & classrooms. If any one of the three elements is missing, it's a bad scene. For everyone's convenience, we try to maintain a book containing all the information about class meeting time, class location, and any important changes. We call it the "Redbook."

The plea is: if you are a course leader, and there has been any kind of a change in time, location, etc. from how it is listed in the catalogue, PLEASE call the Free U and tell us about it so we can put it in the Redbook. Thank you. Love, the staff.

PENINSULA COMMITTEE FOR DRAFT RESISTANCE

Monthly Meetings: The PCDR meets on the Thursday following the first Friday of the month except when that Friday is a holiday. This is because the San Francisco group meets on that Friday and we like to report on their progress.

Weekly meetings: on Monday evenings we meet for work sessions, at Concerned Citizens, 424 Lytton, Palo Alto, 8 p.m.

Sheila Dorcy is now working the Resistance Office and is doing draft counselling. Her hours there are from 10 to 5 Tues. and Wed. She is willing to arrange classes for draft counsellors if people are interested. Call 327-3138 or 327-3108.

Currently we have been trying to organize a mass meeting of recent high school and college graduates in the area, to acquaint them with alternatives to the draft, including the Resistance. The meeting will be on SUNDAY, AUG. 4, at 7 p.m., at the Friends' Meeting House, 957 Colorado, Palo Alto. Anything you can do to publicize the meeting among recent graduates who need information or who ought to be alerted to their rights and to the issues, will be most helpful. A panel of speakers will be there, including Dennis Sweeny (Resistance), Alan Strain (CCCO), and Howard Wentz (Vietnam Veterans Against War). Following the discussion there will be a showing of documentary films from the Chicago film co-op: TRAPS by John Jost and COUNTRY by Kurt Heil; and two films by Leonard Henney: "Peace Pickets Get Arrested for Disturbing the Peace" (Oakland, 1967) and "The Resistance." We are also trying to raise funds for Leonard and for Chris Tillam who is making a film of the Caravan. Contributions can be mailed to PCDR c/o Concerned Citizens or left by those so inclined after the showing.

On AUGUST 8, THURSDAY at 8:30, at the home of Genevieve Knupfer, 740 Menlo Oaks Drive, Menlo Park, the Peace Players, a gifted group of professional performers, will present another of their fine concerts. This one, to benefit PCDR, will include Chamber music, jazz poetry and other delightful performances. Do not miss this event. We are asking for a donation of \$3 per person.

Much more work is needed! We cannot sit back expecting the Paris peace talk to solve all the problems. We must work harder against the war in Vietnam and against other "Vietnams" in other places.

Want is the mistress of invention.

EAST FARTHING EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE

a drama of trial and error

by Steve Russell and Steve Polinsky.

"Is the theatre really dead?" - Paul Simon

After God's, the death of the theatre is probably the second most publicized demise of recent years. Many critics and experts, viewing the abundance of talent in other media and the dearth of it in theatre, have concluded that theatre is indeed a moribund medium.

Despite this gloomy prognosis interest in theatre as an art form still flourishes. The founders of The East Farthing Experimental Theatre do not believe that the chosen medium of Shakespeare, Shaw, Ibsen, etc. has lost its potential. They do feel, however, that theatre as it currently exists is too rigid and inflexible, that it discourages new talent and thus is contributing to its own decay. The East Farthing group feels that original playwrights, young actors and new methods of staging and lighting are too seldom sought after and too infrequently encouraged. They believe the emphasis in theatre today should be shifted away from experience, seniority and the drawing power of big names.

Webster defines "experimental" as, "of or based on experience rather than theory or authority." This is precisely what The East Farthing Experimental Theatre hopes to become, a place where new talent can gain experience without submitting to outmoded theories or archaic authority. Those involved in the Theatre want to create an open atmosphere in which everyone interested in theatre will be free to participate and, hopefully, profit from the experience. Using original plays, unknown actors and non-professionals in general, East Farthing will put the emphasis on talent and

originality rather than slavish imitation of other productions or other styles. In so doing it hopes to expand the current limits of the medium and contribute in some way to the revitalization of the theatre. Although East Farthing currently utilizes the backyard of a store in Palo Alto for its productions, ambitious future plans call for a permanent location to house not only the regular productions but a children's theatre, low cost acting school, and a place to experiment in all forms of performing arts.

Realization of these plans depends heavily on the success of the Theatre's upcoming production, an evening of an original play, songs, and poems. The play will be "Ida Mother," written and directed by Steve Polinsky and starring Cynthia Grant, Kathy Silvia and Art Hopgood. Preceding the play, singer-guitarist Frank Ludwig will perform and several poems will be read.

The first four performances will be Thursday through Sunday, August 29, 30, 31 and September 1. A second group of four will run Thursday through Sunday, September 5, 6, 7 and 8. All performances will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the backyard of the East Farthing Trading Company at 616 Cowper Street in Palo Alto. A donation of \$1.50 will be requested.

The Theatre still needs people willing to work and a strobe light. If you can supply either, or both, contact Steve Polinsky at The East Farthing Trading Company.

(continued from page 7)

Specific alternatives should be provided, otherwise the meeting will become hopelessly confused. There is not enough time to vote on a whole series of motions which are formulated on the floor rather than being worked over and discussed prior to the meeting. I suggest that no main motions from the floor, except for review motions, be allowed in the General Meeting. Amendments will take care of situations where new considerations emerge during the meeting; if they do not then the question was poorly prepared and should go back to the Coordinating Committee. If there is no consensus as to how the question should be put to the General Meeting, then alternative statements should go on the agenda, e.g., 1.) We demand that Huey Newton be freed; 2.) We demand that Huey Newton be freed now by any means necessary.

Questions which are to come before a General Meeting should be discussed informally prior to that meeting, in the Coordinating Committee, the Executive Committee, the special committee, and between individuals. In this way, a great many misunderstandings can be cleared up before the meeting, and the debate in the meeting will be more articulate and less repetitious. Once a question is placed on the agenda of the General Meeting, the Newsletter Editor, the Newsletter Secretary, and those concerned with the issue should have the responsibility of seeing that arguments pro and con appear in the newsletter.

I do not think that the General Meeting should elect its own chairman. This simply places an additional burden on an already overloaded meeting. If we are successful in involving more members in the decision-making processes of the community, we may soon have hundreds of members attending these meetings. To handle a meeting of this size and importance requires a great deal of experience and skill. Those present at the meeting will not be familiar with the qualifications of those nominated. I think the present by-laws are adequate on this subject.

I think that the suggestion that we have a referendum on some policy questions as an alternative to the General Meeting is a poor one. This would add an additional burden to already overburdened staff and volunteers. We have much to much paper work and record keeping to do already. Decisions made in this way would reflect opinions formed by establishment controlled mass media, rather than by the educational resources of the community. Mobility would suffer: it would take a great deal of time and energy to get a decision on a question, and if the decision had to be made by the Executive Committee. Perhaps most important of all, a humanistic politics is one which involves human beings coming together in community meetings, confronting each other in the flesh, engaging in dialogue, airing their differences, talking to their fellow men in a funky way, and creating a rich public life, rather than being isolated social atoms who mechanically mark pieces of paper, for this is opinion polling and not democracy.

POETRY *by docey baldwin*

Two Poems for C.A.P.

would i could crawl back
into one of our tears cried together

and believe that dreams are not just
dreams meant to be withered by distances or time
and then get laughed or sighed away
or tucked between heart beats
hidden
(forgotten to remind, reminded to forget
with every pump thump
the beauty of your hump pump)

i would curse the tic tock of the nows and thens

we were sitting in the cambridge unitarian church
listening to the 12-2 weekday classical music for
meditation

i and my guy
and we would kiss every now and again
and blow the old mind of the lady in back of us
but it was o.k. to kiss in a church 'cause we were in
love really
he was barefoot and rocked slowly back on the too
narrow (& always too hard) pew
(harpsichord music)

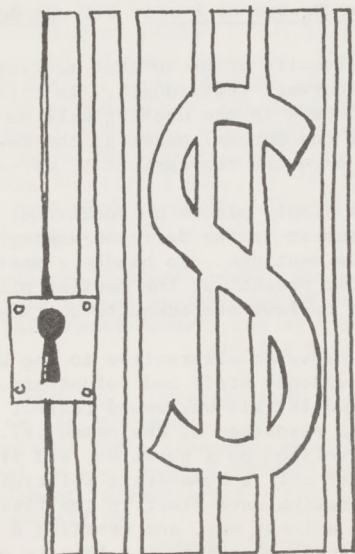
now two people alone not saying much can't take too
long of classical
on a weekday when the sun's out so we split
and thought good-byes to the old lady and walked
down the street cold sunny day
(he wouldn't admit he was cold in his barefeet)

i was sorry that a fortune teller once told him he
would die a violent death at forty
and i tried to lengthen his damn short life line
while we held hands
i'll love you til you die your violent death at forty
you ask me never to mourn
but can i make one huge deafening stinking eternal fart?



Xmas 67

hey man is my face really here?
like sometimes i worry about it so bony
an i haven't slept in five days
it's that damn meth and the bum aci-
do no you don't
obnoxious as hell you are sleeping there me near
unable to touch you
tuned out by reality in a flash of red then got
recaught in my silver web til some-
body said
oink
this place has got a lot of nerve so i'll light
me another joint to anoint the
puzzle
that isn't really death
but can it really be christmas?



Laws to prohibit long hair and bare feet will receive serious consideration by the (San Francisco) supervisors' Fire, Safety and Police Committee next month. The long hair law was proposed by Storm Goranson, of 63A Manchester St., who recently wrote the supervisors that "long hair, as well as bare feet, is a definite health hazard.

"In damp weather, when long hair won't dry fast, one faces the risk of a severe cold or worse! Also, since long hair is difficult to clean, there is a strong possibility of having harmful germs in one's hair." A city clerk noted at the bottom of Goranson's letter "Amen! I can add to that. Long hair falling over seat rails on busses is very hazardous."

The anti-bare feet ordinance was suggested by Everett B. Anderson, of 715 Leavenworth St., noting it "would prevent injury and possible longtime handicap." At least a sandal should be required for foot protection, Anderson said, adding "ignorance and exuberance may be the occasion as with hippies, but these do not safeguard against the germs, glass, nails, splinters and debris found virtually everywhere here." Such a law, he said, would protect citizens against infection, lameness, "and loss of competence to the community."

HANG UP ON WAR

An organized boycott of the telephone war tax.
Compiled by the War Resisters League

(The MFU has endorsed phone tax refusal as part of its official policy, and does not pay the tax on its phones.

For further information contact the league office, 831 Haight Street, San Francisco 94117.)

(WHY WAS IT RESTORED?)

Because of the widening war in Vietnam, federal legislation was passed which, in April, 1966, restored the 10% tax on telephone bills. At that time the tax was 3% and due to be dropped entirely in 1969.

"It is clear," said Rep. Wilbur Mills, who managed the tax legislation in the House, "that the Vietnam and only the Vietnam operation makes this bill necessary." (Congressional Record, February 23, 1966)

(WHAT DOES IT PAY FOR?)

Congressman Mills was always careful to refer to "our operations in Vietnam." But those of us who know it is not an operation but a tragic bloodbath. We know that revenue for the Vietnam war pays for:

- napalm, mass bombing, and other attacks on civilian areas resulting in extermination of thousands of Vietnamese -- about 200,000 casualties in the last year and a half;
- forcing young Americans into "kill-civilians-or-be-killed" situations. Over 14,450 GI's have been killed in Vietnam;
- perpetuating a military dictatorship;
- violation of the Nuremberg precedents, the U.N. Charter, and the Geneva Accords of 1954;
- indefinite continuation of war against a people who desire above all to be alive and to determine their destiny free from foreign domination.

(WHY BOYCOTT THIS TAX?)

A tax boycott demonstrates that you believe this war to be immoral and/or illegal and that you are willing to act on this belief.

We boycott the telephone tax because:

- it is a tax directly imposed to pay for the war in Vietnam;
- anyone who has a phone can refuse to pay this tax;
- most telephone companies have indicated that refusal to pay this tax will not result in interruption of your phone service;
- the monthly refusal of a small amount of money creates a thorny collection problem for the Internal Revenue Service.

(WHAT HAPPENS TO REFUSERS?)

Over two thousand people in all parts of the country are currently refusing to pay this war tax. In virtually every case telephone companies have assured the refusers that their telephone service will not be interrupted.

The phone companies usually treat refusal as a matter between the individual and the government. In some cases they have even called to remind a customer that on the bill he has just paid he has forgotten to refuse the tax.

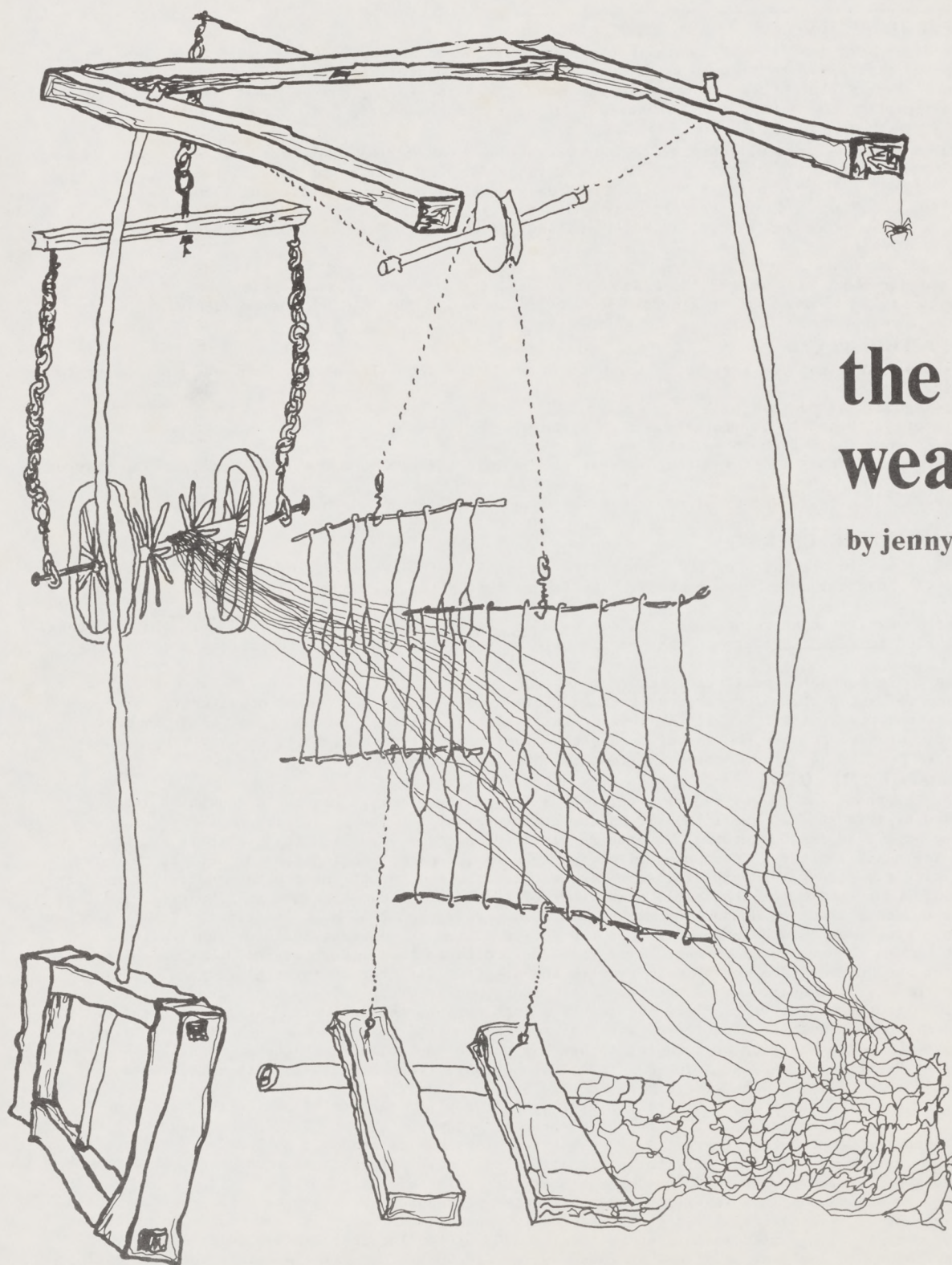
At some point the phone companies notify the Internal Revenue Service that the tax is not being paid. The IRS then sends the refuser a claim for the unpaid taxes (form L-45). He is offered an opportunity for a conference with representatives of a IRS. If the refuser still has not paid up, another form (17-A) is sent after which IRS can proceed to take the amount owed plus 6% per year interest from the refuser's bank account. Only in a few cases has IRS actually carried the case to this final step.

(TAX REFUSAL AND THE LAW)

Imposition of the telephone tax is covered by Section 4251 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code, which reads, "The taxes imposed by this section shall be paid by the person paying for the services."

This provision is amplified in the Internal Revenue Regulations, Section 49.4251-2 (c) LIABILITY FOR, AND RETURN OF, TAX: The taxes imposed by Section 4251 are payable by the person paying for the service rendered, and shall be paid to the person rendering the services, who is required to collect the tax and return and pay over the tax in accordance with the applicable provisions of the regulations contained in Subparts F and G. According to the Commerce Clearing House 1966 Excise Tax Guide, Paragraph 2235 on Collection of Tax by Another Person, "Certain miscellaneous taxes are imposed on the person making the payment but are required to be collected by the person receiving the payment. All taxes collected in this manner are held by the collecting agent in trust for the United States until paid over to the district director of internal revenue. If the person from whom the tax is required to be collected refuses to pay it or if for any other reason it is impossible for the collecting agency to collect the tax from such person, the collecting agency is required to report the facts to the district director of internal revenue and the tax will then be collected by direct assessment against the person failing or refusing to pay the tax to the collecting agent." Exactly the same language appears in Prentice Hall Federal Taxes, Excise Volume, Paragraph 189, 514-A, with a reference to Statement of Procedural Rules CB 1955-2, Page 977, Section 601.493 (c) (2).

This indicates that the ultimate responsibility for paying, or refusing, the tax lies with the telephone user, not with the phone company, and that if the user refuses to pay the tax as billed, the issue will be settled directly between him and the Internal Revenue Service, through its standard collection procedures, rather than by termination of telephone service. This also agrees with informal opinions given by representatives of Illinois Bell Telephone Co. and the Chicago District office of IRS. Having dealt with the question of tax liability, and collection procedures, it might be well, for the record, to mention the subject of criminal penalties for tax refusal. One who "wilfully fails to pay" the phone tax could possibly be charged with a misdemeanor, under Section 7203 of the Internal Revenue Code, and be imprisoned for a period up to one year and fined an amount up to \$10,000. It is also possible that one could be charged with attempt to "evade or defeat" the phone tax, under a section carrying a stiffer penalty. However, experiences of objectors to other federal war taxes during the past several years indicate that the government would not be interested in pressing criminal charges, but that it would instead try here or there to collect the tax (with interest).



the weaver

by jenny deupree

deadline for the next issue is monday, august 19.

MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

A Free U member has donated her shares in the CO-OP to the MFU. If you shop occasionally at the Cooperative Center on California Ave. (Palo Alto), San Antonio Center (Mountain View), or 150 East Fremont (Sunnyvale), you can receive a proportionate share of the CO-OP dividends at the checkstand or to the service station attendant, or save the top half of your sales slips and turn them in at the CO-OP. The Free U's number is 4481. If you believe in the principle of economic cooperatives, you may find CO-OP worthy of your patronage.

Free U freebeachers: As the newly-hooked "volunteer" coordinator of Freebeaching, I will accept and pass on information about anyone planning trips to go naked in the sunshine. I have a carryall with space for up to 8 riders, which will be available at fairly short notice to anyone and all (donations for gas requested) who need rides, or just like company, any weekend and many weekdays. Give a call, and let's make this a fun thing. Call me at 967-0302.

Free University members may obtain auto parts or tires at prices around 25% off retail prices. Call Tom Reidy 321-1392.

Coordinating meetings are held every Thursday at 6:15 in the small dining rooms at Tresidder Union, Stanford.

Community center meetings, open to all, are held Thursdays at 5PM on the lawn in front of Tresidder Union, Stanford.

Copies of the MFU by-laws are available at the store, or in the Spring Quarter catalogue.

Abortion counseling: call area code 916-673-4635, Yuba City, California, 7-8 p.m. (editor's note: these people are serious and sensitive.)

Our draft counseling staff has been expanded since the last announcement; we now have draft counselors in the Free University store during the following hours:

Monday ----	11am-2pm;	2pm-5pm;	7pm-9pm.
Tuesday ---	11am-2pm;	2pm-5pm;	7pm-9pm.
Wednesday -	11am-2pm;	2pm-5pm;	7pm-9pm
Thursday --	xx	2pm-5pm;	xx
Friday ----	xx	2pm-5pm;	xx

The Free University office will be staffed from 10:00a.m. to 8:00p.m. Monday through Friday. On Saturday and Sunday, it's a toss up.

east coast premature spring rites

i locked ephemeral time up in a starless night
(after an insincere elegy to winter)
and gathered the dry leaves and painted them green
and hung them up like christmas decorations
on the bare trees by moonlight

POLITICAL COMMITTEE NOTES

by Graham Lewis

RANSOM FOR CONGRESS

The political committee of the MFU met on Sat. July 20th, with some fifteen persons present. Dave Ransom, campaigning for congress as Peace and Freedom Party candidate in San Mateo County, spoke of help needed with ideas for his campaign. One area we could help would be in organising community events in the local parks of San Mateo with rock groups, etc., also we can work on position papers expressing our ideas, e.g., Andy Sears is going to work on his ideas on sexual freedom and political freedom.

PALO ALTO PARKS

Another item discussed was the situation with the parks, regarding the decision made by the Palo Alto administration to arbitrarily forbid use of amplified music in city parks. We feel that this is a good example of a few with money and influence exerting power over the several thousand local people who come to and wish to use the parks for community events. It was decided to get more information on the matter through legal channels to get the ruling reversed and if this does not work to plan action through community action if our demands for use of at least one park in Palo Alto are not met.

BIG SUR

After much discussion of all aspects of Big Sur merchants' landowners', and State Park Officials' discrimination against long-haired residents and visitors to the Big Sur coast, it was decided to arrange for a group to go down to get more first-hand information on the situation. Though the existence of discrimination in the area is well known, some suggested that thought be given to reports of the reasons for some local residents being up tight are vandalism in the forested areas and the serious fire hazard.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The question of a political co-ordinator was shelved due to insufficient time for discussion of aims and purposes of the group, and lack of general feeling of the job of the co-ordinator. One idea put forward was to work toward a full-time paid person to help in community organising. Future meetings will, I am sure, talk about the purposes and philosophy of the group and discussion of relevant areas of action to work in. As well as the above projects, like freeing the parks for community control and use, other ideas put forward include the revolutionary gang ideas put forward by Marvin Garson in the S.F. Express Times, helping build community newspapers, in particular the Midpeninsula Observer, and work in the high schools. Lastly, a lot of new people came and that was great. It would also be great if more of those from the General and Co-ordinating meetings who want to control our actions like no other part of the Free U. is controlled would show up. You might even enjoy it, like no parliamentary procedure and no votes taken, dig.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, Aug. 3rd, 11:00a.m. at the Free U store.



CLASSIFIED INFORMATION AND ADVERTISING

Share expenses on sailboat cruise from Texas to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Cruise will take about three months starting in October. John Hauser, Box 6163, Stanford, Calif.

VERY LARGE 2 BEDROOM HOUSE (2 living rooms) in the middle of a hundred acres on hill side with great view. \$175 (will bargain with groovy people with kids), water paid. Available August 1st (see now). Less than 30 minutes from Stanford, in Cupertino (near 280 & 85). Call 252-5305.

In either Fall or Winter Quarter one of the Free U. students attending Gavin Arthur's course on Jungian astrology borrowed some charts and materials for the purpose of mimeographing them. They were never returned. He would very much like them back. Please help if you can.

Wanted: The girl from San Carlos who came to my sandal making class and who was going to make sandals to sell. Please call me. Bobbie Lucas, 321-0287.

The Free U. office needs a lockable filing cabinet - please help.

I have a glass blowing studio where I give lessons each Monday thru Friday. Classes begin at 1:00 P.M. and all materials and equipment are provided. The fee is \$10.00 to cover the cost of materials. If anyone is interested, contact me (Kathy Wolfe) at 854-6229.

Wanted: Friendly people to sell signs to strangers. Choose your own hours, minimum 10 hrs. per week, reasonably profitable, and provides opportunity to make Free U converts. Leave message at 968-8815 when and where I can phone you to discuss this. Jim Everett, 744 Rose Lane, Los Altos.

I would be willing to keep a house neat - not immaculate - and cook some meals. In return I'd like a private room, some food, and my freedom. I need someplace that looks straight because I want eventually to bring my 18-month-old girl and I'll be on welfare. I'm 22 and neither straight nor freaky. I also model for artists (\$5 an hour) and tutor math at flexible rates. Sherrill, 325-0673.

Camper to fit Volkswagen sedan; must sell. Includes foam rubber mattress on right side of car and storage drawers and cabinets under formica countertop behind driver. Special, custom fitted, one-of-a-kind camper. For \$35 (less than the cost of materials) or best offer. 326-5906.

TIME VALUE

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY
GENERAL MEETING NOTICES ENCLOSED

The Free you

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